



**CITY OF YPSILANTI
ARTS COMMISSION MEETING
Thursday, March 10, 2022 @ 7:00 PM
Council Chambers
One South Huron, Ypsilanti, MI 48197**

Page

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. ROLL CALL

Commissioner McAtee
Commissioner Ventour
Commissioner Seagraves
Commissioner Thompson
Commissioner Settles

III. AGENDA APPROVAL

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

3 - 5

A. [12-16-21 Arts Commission Minutes](#)

V. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION/COMMISSION RESPONSE

VI. NEW BUSINESS

7 - 83

A. Embracing Our Differences - Submission review and selection
[Ypsilanti & Ann Arbor Artist Submissions](#)
[National Artist Submissions](#)

VII. OLD BUSINESS

A. Public Art Process + Guidelines
B. Sub-Committee Check-in

VIII. UPDATES

A. ArtSpace Feasibility Study for Ann Arbor, Ypsilanti, and Washtenaw County Update
B. Arts Events and Happenings around the City

IX. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION/COMMISSION RESPONSE

X. PROPOSED BUSINESS

XI. NEXT MEETING DATE

Thursday April 14th, 2022

XII. ADJOURNMENT



MINUTES

ARTS COMMISSION Meeting

7:00 PM - Thursday, December 16, 2021

Virtual

The ARTS COMMISSION of the City of Ypsilanti was called to order on Thursday, December 16, 2021, in the Zoom meeting.

1 CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 PM.

2 ROLL CALL

Present:

Commissioner Wolfe - City of Ypsilanti, Washtenaw County
Commissioner McAtee - City of Ypsilanti, Washtenaw County
Commissioner Ventour - City of Ypsilanti, Washtenaw County
Commissioner Seagraves - City of Ypsilanti, Washtenaw County
Commissioner Thompson - Township of Ypsilanti, Washtenaw County
Commissioner Settles - Township of Ypsilanti, Washtenaw County

Absent:

Commissioner Goulet
Commissioner Kirkpatrick

3 AGENDA APPROVAL

The agenda was approved.

Commission Ventour moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Commissioner Seagraves.

Approved:

Yes - 6, No - 0, Absent - 2

4 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the November 18, 2021 meeting were approved.

Commissioner Seagraves moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Commissioner Ventour.

Approved:

Yes - 6, No - 0, Absent - 2

5 AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION/COMMISSION RESPONSE

No comments were made.

6 NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

7 OLD BUSINESS

a) 2022 Arts Plan - Committees and Timelines

Commissioner Wolfe proposed adding activities for seniors and for families with young children as priorities for 2022. The commission agreed to form the following subcommittees and asked that they be ready to present an update at the March 2022 meeting:

- Development
- Community Partnerships
- Budget
- Gala and Poet Laureate
- Communications

b) Public Art Process + Guidelines

Commissioners McAtee and Seagraves gave a brief update and agreed to take on a role in developing firm guidelines for the commission.

8 UPDATES

a) Proposed Busking Policy to Support Street Art Performances

Commissioner Thompson informed the commission that there will be short time slots this weekend as a trial run and encouraged the commissioners to reach out to any musicians who might be interested.

b) Embracing Our Differences Mural Project

Commissioner Settles and Elize Jekabson the Ypsilanti Downtown Development Authority gave updates. The commission encouraged each other to remind artists they know to submit by the February 1st deadline. The commission also discussed the possibility of creating a promotional video to give the event more publicity.

9 AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION/COMMISSION RESPONSE

No comments were made.

10 PROPOSED BUSINESS

a) Staying Power - Scheduled for January meeting.

b) Presence at City Council meetings - Commissioner Thompson proposed that one commissioner be at each city council meeting as an audience member. Commissioner Thompson also said she intends to meet with Council Member Sommerville to see if she will attend Arts Commission meetings.

11 NEXT MEETING DATE

January 13, 2022

12 ADJOURNMENT

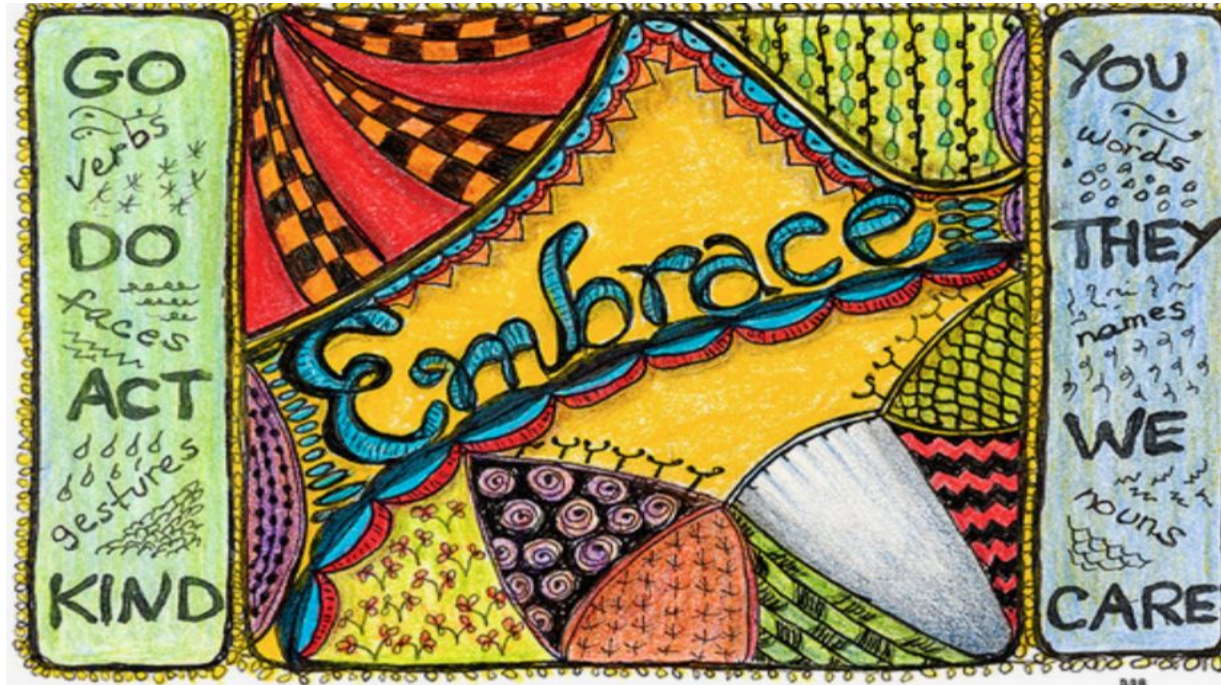
The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 PM.

Commissioner Seagraves moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Wolfe.

Approved:

Yes - 6, No - 0, Absent - 2

Embrace - Barbara Bach - Ann Arbor



Opal Lee - Sabrina Kliza - Ann Arbor



Best in show 2022

Ubuntu Rekindling Color - A.D. Foster - Ypsilanti



Hope - Asha Jordan - Ann Arbor



Lift Every Voice & Scream - Dr. James Lee - Ann Arbor



**Lift Every Voice and Scream,
No Time To Be Silent!
- Can We Talk About It?**

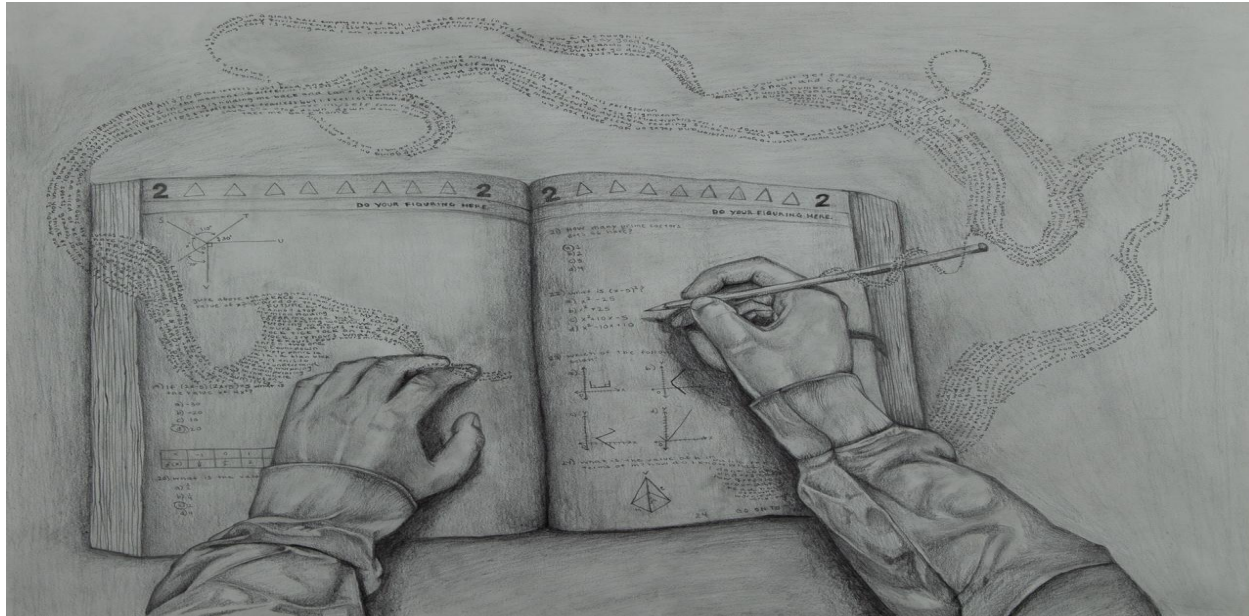
An Interpretation of current
social "Justice" events through
the lens of history and the
lyrics of the spiritual song,
"Lift Every Voice And Sing."

Dr. James Lee

All are welcome here - Susan Clinthorne - Ann Arbor



Don't Panic - Claire E. Furio - Ann Arbor



Welcome Fence - Robin & Ellen Wilt - Ann Arbor



Bennett G. Ann Arbor - 4th grade



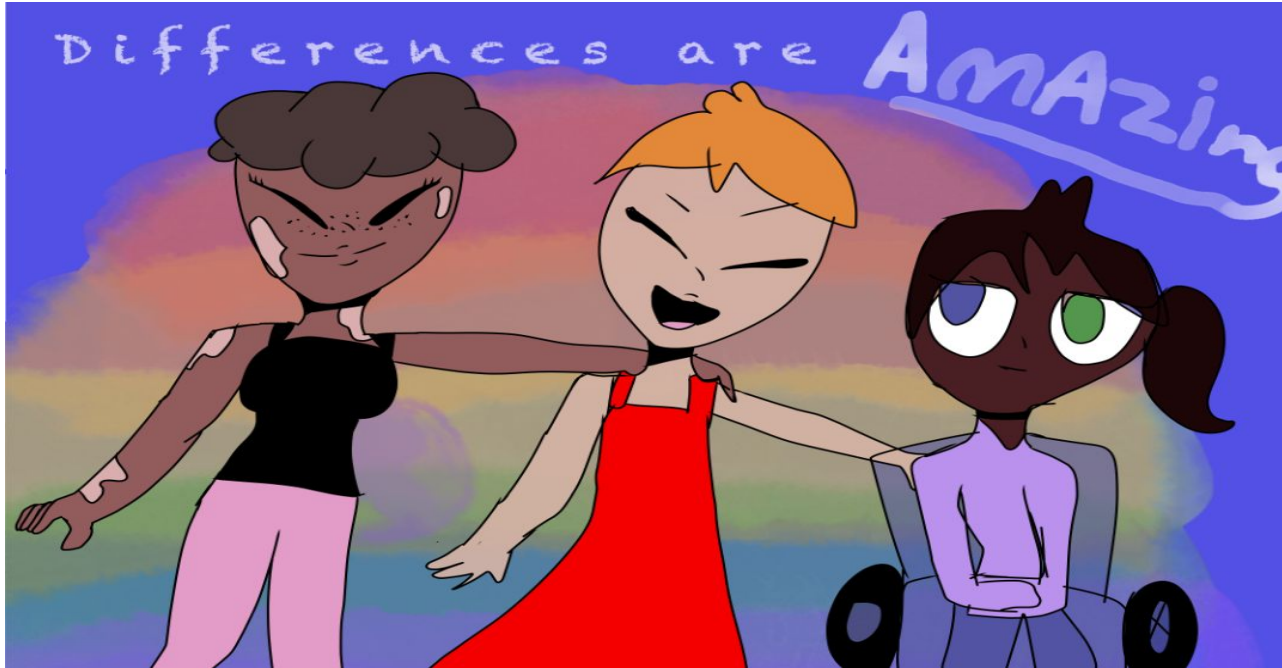
Madeleine F - 4th grade - Ann Arbor



Black Lives Matter - T'onna Clemons - Ann Arbor



Differences are Amazing - Vivian Hillis - 4th grade- Ypsilanti



Unity In Diversity - Jannath Junu - 12th grade - Ypsilanti



“Together” - Keairra Townsend - 11th - Ypsilanti



“Friendship Forever” - Tai Azzaro - 3rd grade - Ypsilanti



“Note to self” - Curtis Wallace - Ypsilanti



“Peace Love Resistance” - Emily Mills - Ypsilanti



“We Rise” - Amanda May Moore - Ypsilanti



I will Survive - Annie Poorman - Ann Arbor



The World of Difference” - Tessneem Salen - 7th grade - Ypsilanti



“Diversity and Inclusion to the world” - 4th grade group - Ypsilanti



“Awakening” - Lauren Magda - Ypsilanti



“ Princess” - Zakiya Newell - Ypsilanti



-“Diversity and Inclusion” Emeline Jayne McVay-Conat -12th grade - Ypsilanti



“Same” Terrance W. Hinton - Ypsilanti



“The Innocence of Making new friends” -Danna Love - Ypsilanti





**“Don’t be ordinary;
it’s already used by too many people.”**
Katerina Bizirtsaki
11th Grade, Thessaloniki, Greece

Udderly Unique

Brooks Tracey
Sarasota, Florida

EmbracingOurDifferences.org

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**“Anyone can fit in,
but it takes true courage to stand out.”**

Emilia Marr

7th Grade, Sarasota School of Arts & Sciences
Sarasota, Florida, Teacher: Brian Hubbard

Be Dif'rent

Corey Pane

West Hartford, Connecticut

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“Perhaps, wearing a mask of love and tolerance, could end the pandemic of prejudice, hatred and discrimination.”

Fran Squires, M.Ed.
Venice, Florida

Colors of Change

Meg Seymour
Somerville, Massachusetts

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**“Beliefs separate us. Social status grouped us.
Differences may divide us.
But compassion breaks the line of exclusivity.”**

Angielyn Caneda
Cainta, Philippines

The Goal Is in Sight

Melika Bašić
Visoko, Bosnia and Herzegovina

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“What would you like me to know about you?”

Kathleen Brand
Bradenton, Florida

Limited Edition

Jordyn Hall
LaVergne, Tennessee

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**“Social equality cannot be achieved
if the folks making the decisions
all look alike.”**

Kimberly Boyd
Tyrone, Georgia



Small Struggles

Emily Norris
7th Grade, Sarasota Middle School
Sarasota, Florida, Teacher: Brooks Tracey

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**“We are not remembered
for what we have in life, but
for what we have given.”**

Clifford McDonald
Sarasota, Florida

Contrast of Life

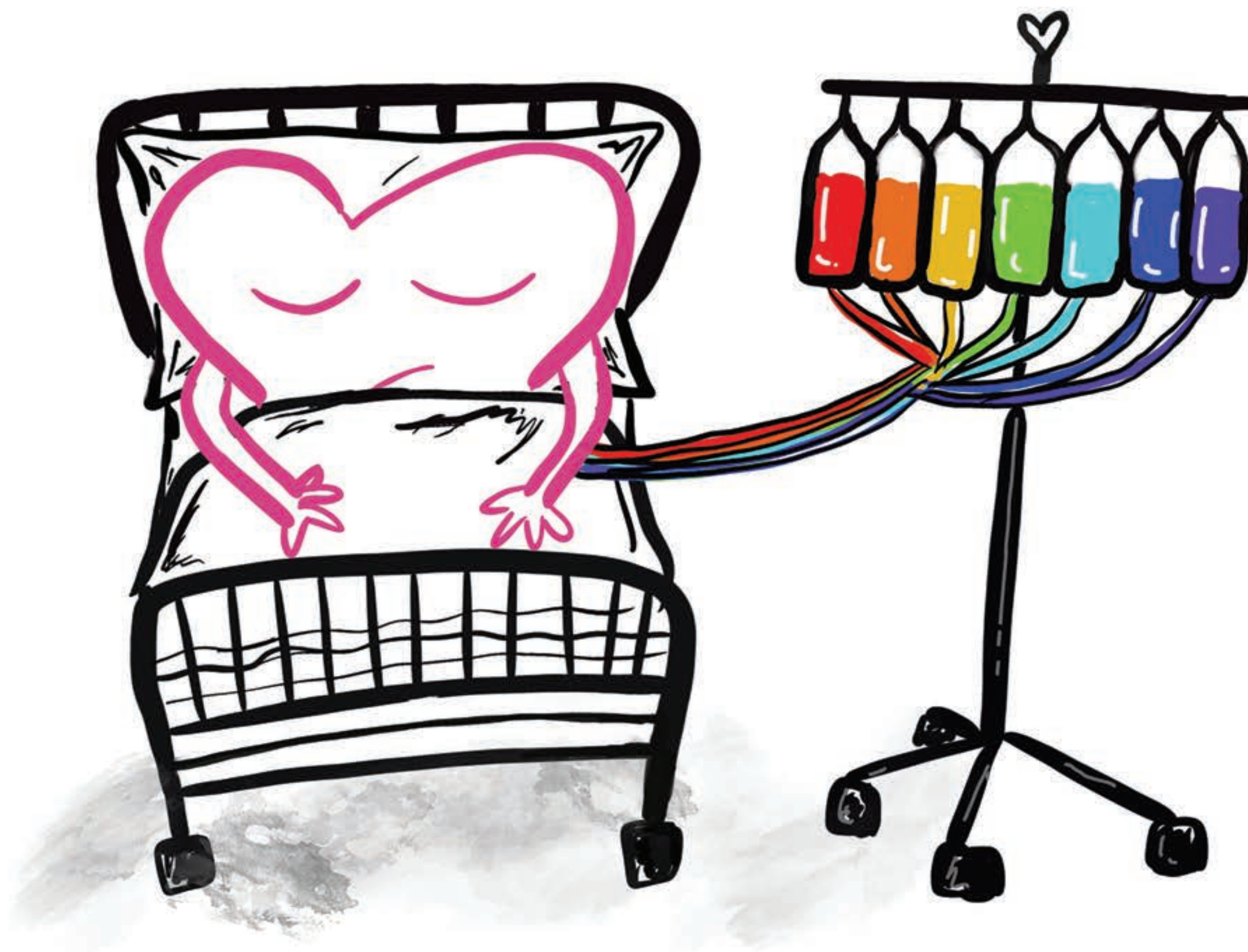
Teody Boylie Perez
Davao City, Philippines

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**“A heart frozen by hatred
can only be melted by love.”**

Oghogho Odiase
Lagos, Nigeria

Infusion of Love

Joanna Davis
Venice, Florida

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**“It was only when I came out
that I was able to bloom into me.”**

Benjamin McDonald
8th Grade, Booker Middle School
Sarasota, Florida, Teacher: Joanna Fox

Love is Love

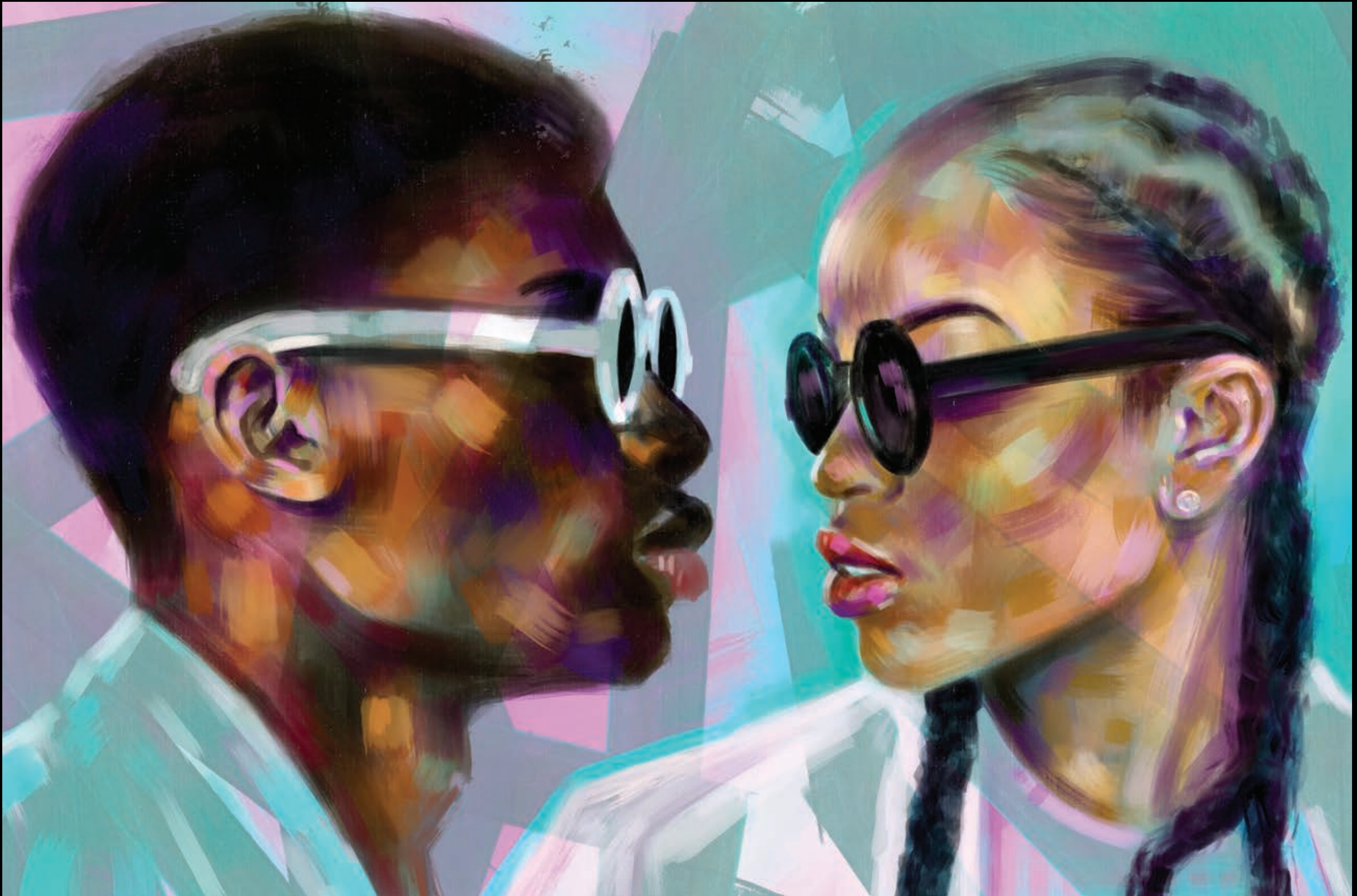
Diana Simon
Burbank, California

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**“My strength is the color of my skin;
your weakness is the inability to see past it.”**

Malaika Masroor
Karachi, Pakistan

Different Shades

Clifford McDonald
Sarasota, Florida

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“This seat is taken. It’s yours.”

Emiliana Russo
Puglianello, Italy

I Want to Be

Namita Agarwal
Gwalior, India

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**“Don’t wait for better leaders,
become one.”**

Seth Morano
Sarasota, Florida

Liberty Enlightening the World



Arya Badiyan
Lake Oswego, Oregon

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**"It is time to act NOW, not next week,
not tomorrow, RIGHT NOW!"**

Geri Drexler
Lakewood Ranch, Florida

Abriendo Caminos (Opening Paths)

Olivia Rojo
Mexico City, Mexico

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"A world with no differences would be like a library with copies of the same book."

Kelly Zalewski

10th Grade, Pine View School
Osprey, Florida, Teacher: Christopher Pauling

Birds of a Feather

Michael O'Connell
Clearwater, Florida

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**“Another person’s beauty
does not imply the absence
of your own.”**

Ayazhan Akhmet
Almaty, Kazakhstan

Diversity of Women

Romina Nichiforov
Chisinau, Moldova

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**“A simple, sincere smile can dry up all our tears;
a friendly little hug can wipe out all our fears.”**

Leyi Shen

9th Grade, Shanghai High School International Division
Shanghai, China, Teacher: Daniel Scott Roberts

Play Together

Leow Yong Jun

2nd Grade, Bukit Panjang Primary School
Singapore

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“A moment of kindness can lead to a warm heart for a lifetime.”

Raven Christine Dario
Bulacan, Philippines

Grandmother's Class

Chinmoy Biswas
Kolkata, India

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“If we were to exchange shoes,
would you be willing to wear mine?”

Temilola Aderemi
Ibafo, Nigeria



Stand in My Shoes

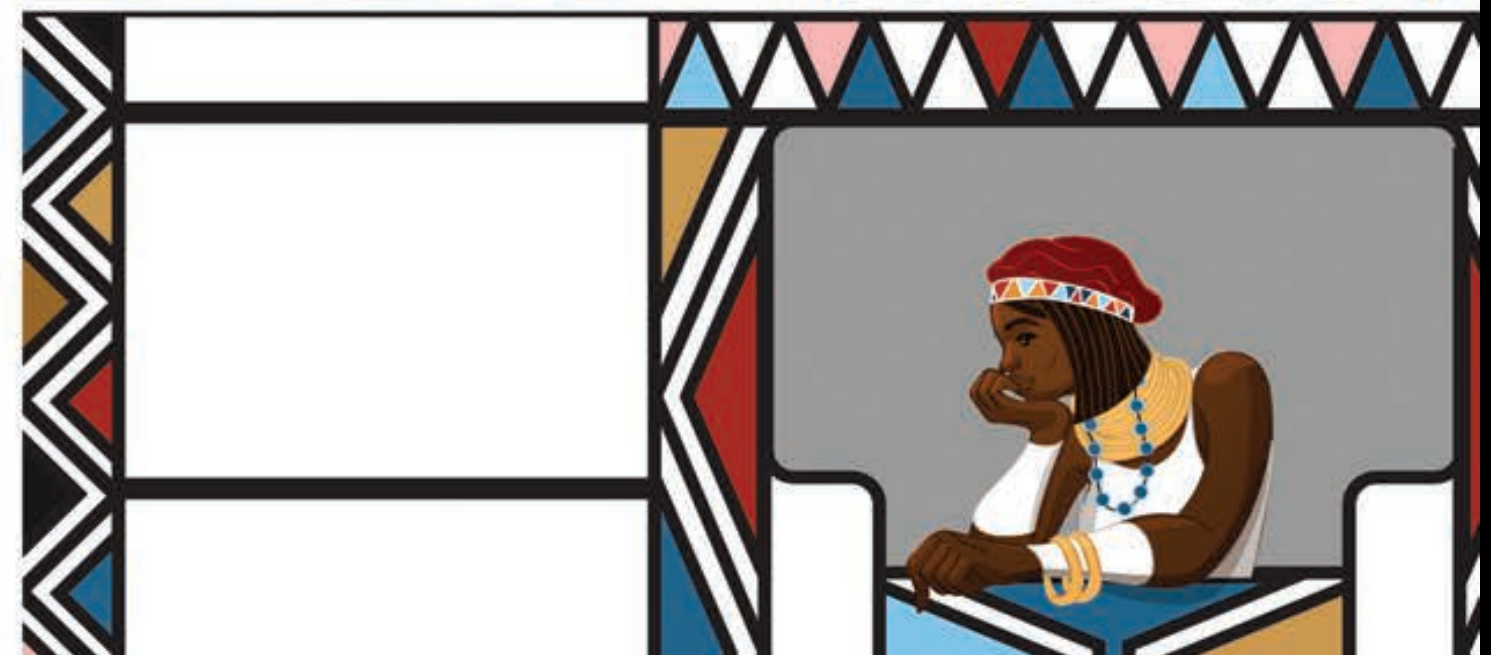
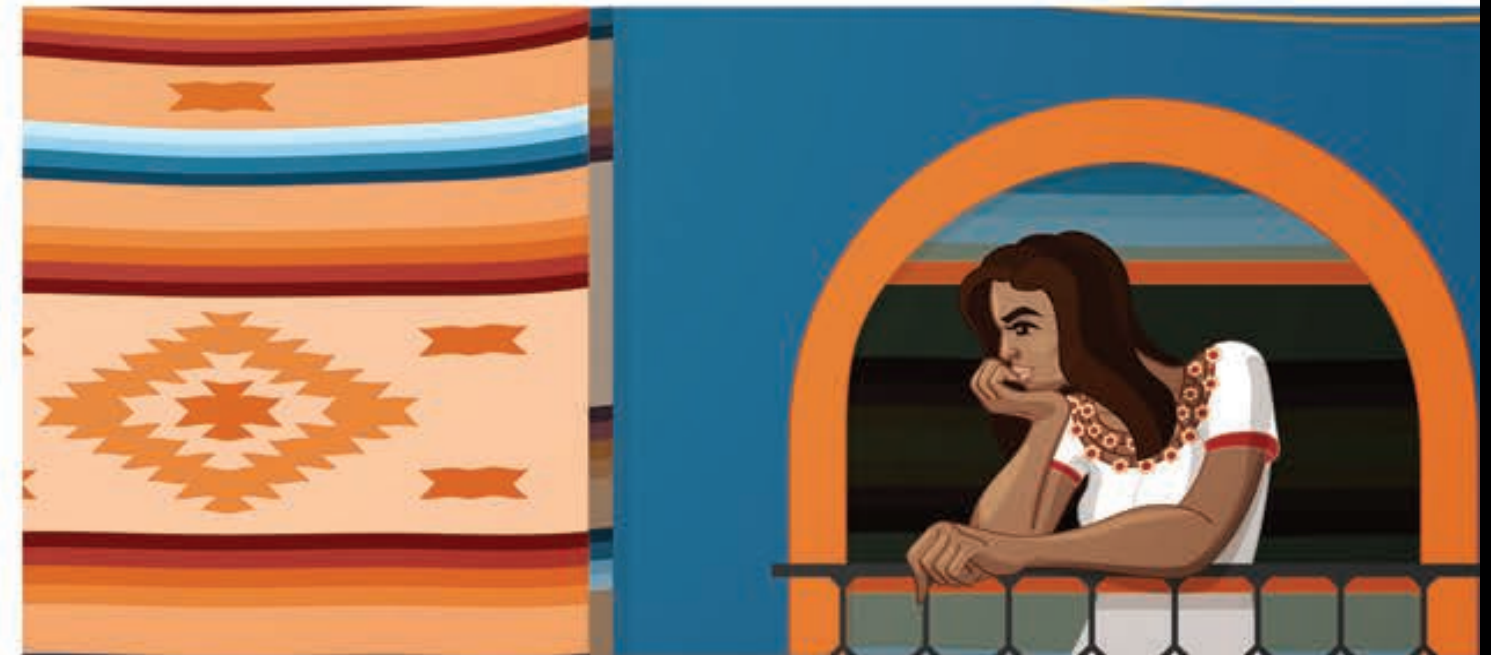
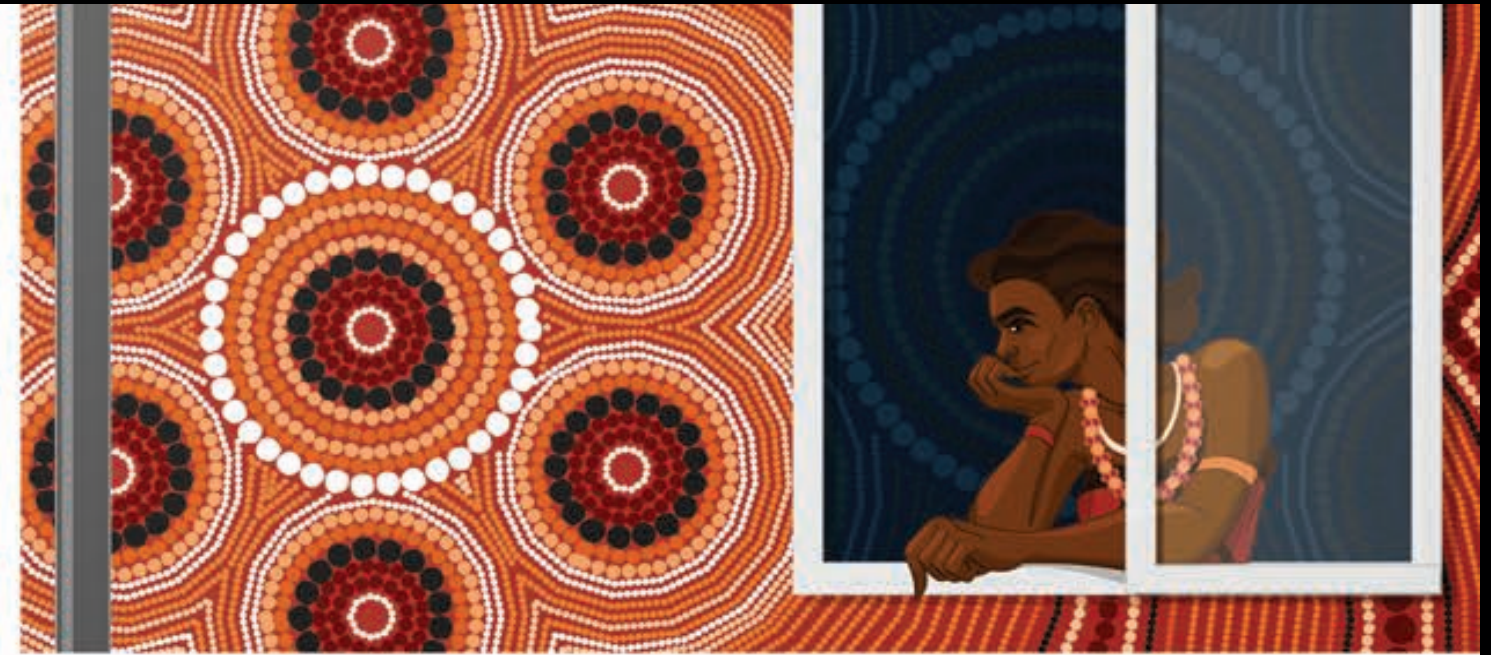
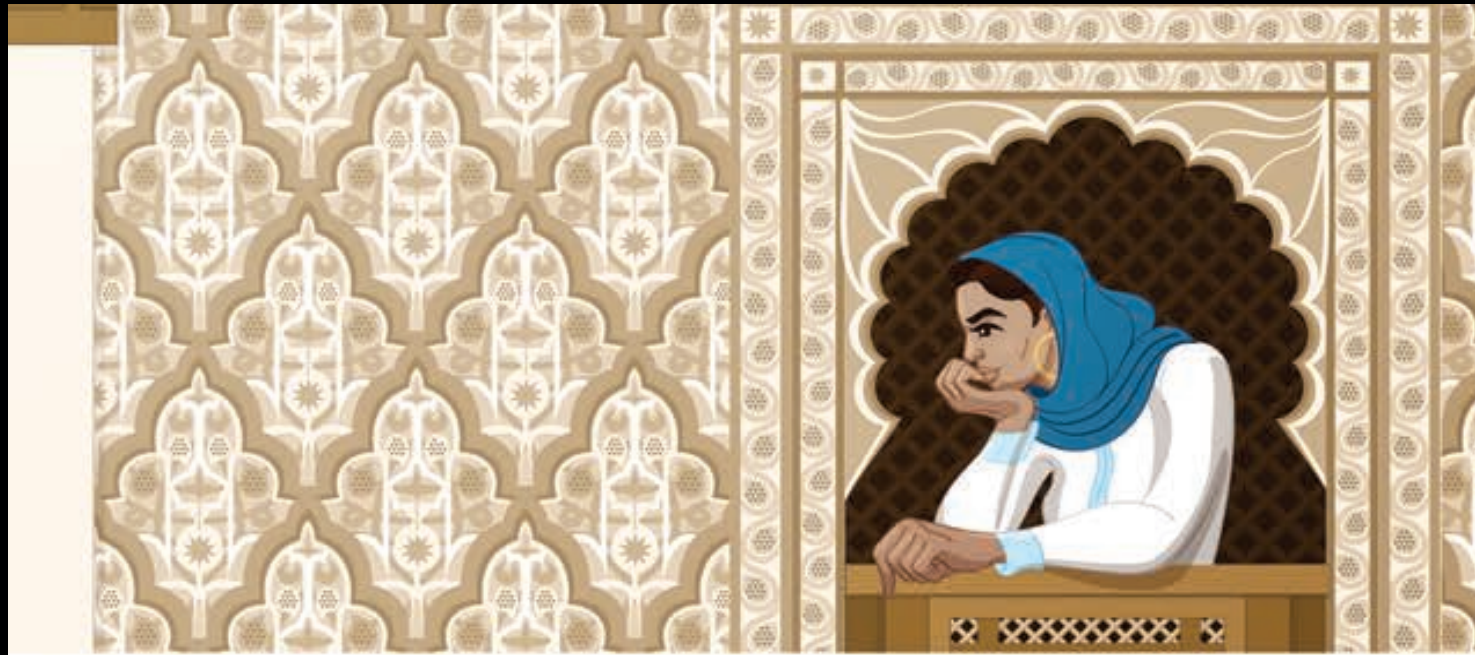
Wayne Ramirez
Venice, Florida

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“Each of us is a vibrant thread
in humanity’s tapestry.”

Sowmya Sridhar
11th Grade, Flower Mound High School
Flower Mound, Texas

Patterns & Possibilities 1-6

Donavon Brutus
San Francisco, California

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**“Broaden your mind and open your ears
because you never know whose story has
the ability to change you.”**

Catelyn Meyer
Cary, North Carolina

The Differences

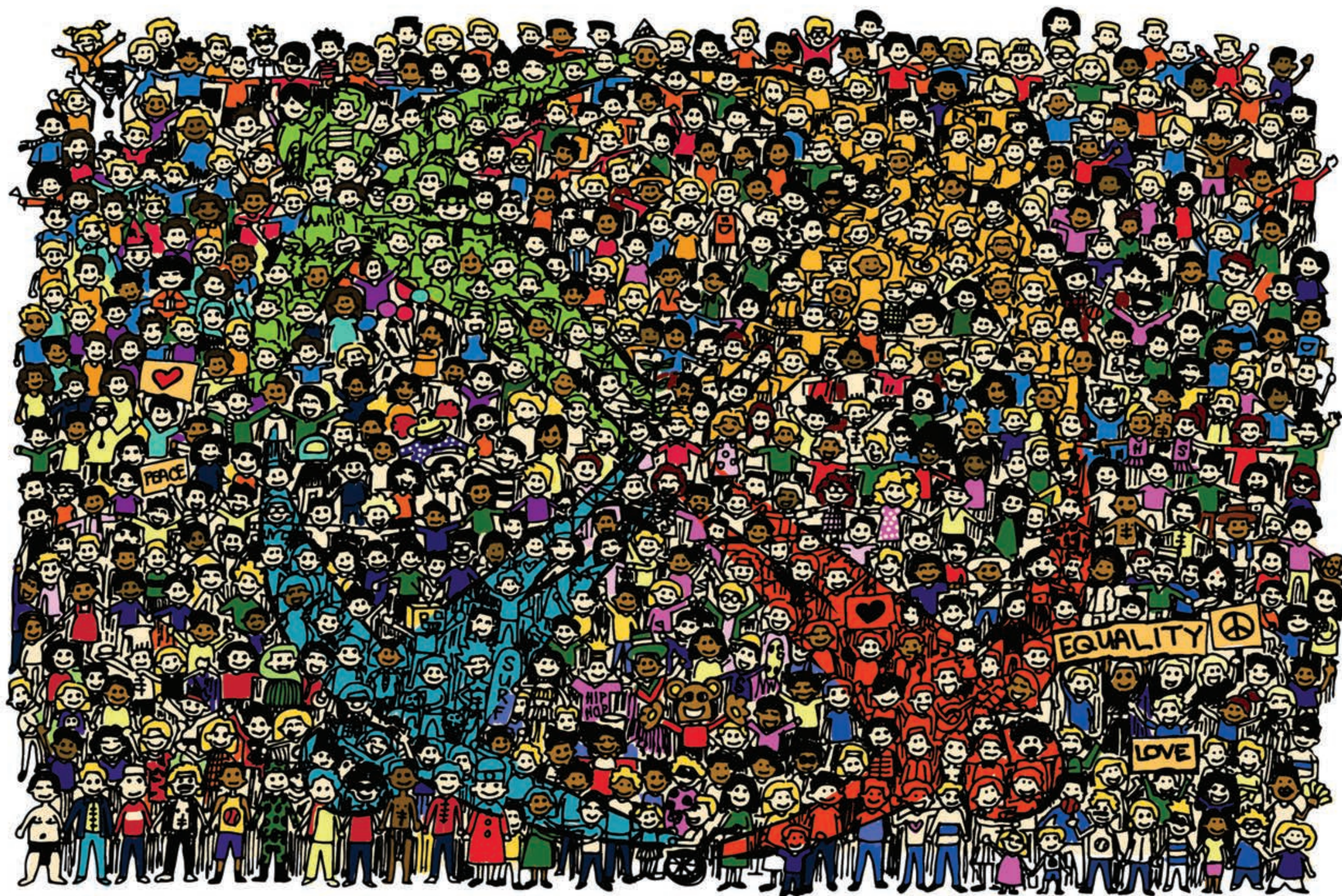
Salar Arkan
Sanandaj, Iran

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"A garden looks most beautiful when it has flowers of all colors, all sizes, all fragrances."

Shreya Neogi
12th Grade, Kendriya Vidyalaya
Kharagpur, India

Equality

Nuera Wencesa
Davao City, Philippines

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**“A person who can admit that they don’t know,
is smart enough to learn anything.”**

Ethan Booth
Sedgley, United Kingdom

Conversation

Arash Shirinbab
Albany, California

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**"I am not defined by an inanimate object.
Look at me, not my wheelchair."**

Carey Link
Huntsville, Alabama

Sezer's Diary

Leyla Emektar
Erdek, Turkey

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**"Hate is a strong word.
So is Love."**

Malachi Brand
10th Grade, Braden River High School
Bradenton, Florida

Love Protects

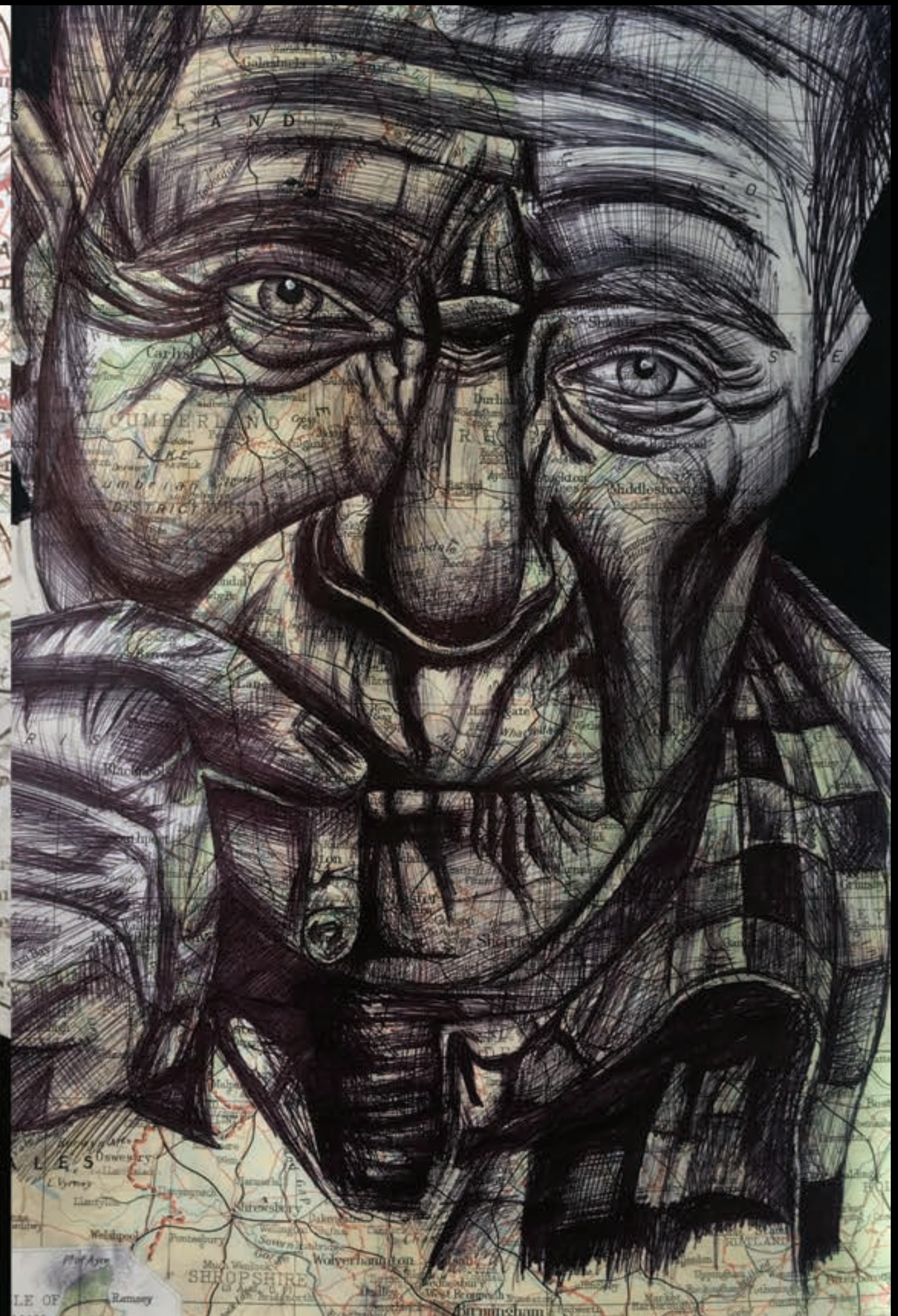
Pamela Kok
Sarasota, Florida

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“You see the cover of my life, but do you see the pages of my story?”

Benjamin McDonald
8th Grade, Booker Middle School
Sarasota, Florida, Teacher: Joanna Fox

Treasures of Time

Aysha Shaikh
Smethwick, United Kingdom

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**“Do not let the pain of your past
limit the hope that lies in your future.”**

Hadley DiFiore

12th Grade, NewGate Montessori IB School
Sarasota, Florida, Teacher: Amy Kremer-Treibly

Journey to Self Love

Ella Mirman

12th Grade, Booker High School
Sarasota, Florida, Teacher: Jeffery Cornwell

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**“A best friend is someone
who loves you for who you are,
not what you have.”**

Andrew Salazar

8th Grade, Sarasota Middle School
Sarasota, Florida, Teacher: Kim Farrell

**We Have Different Opportunities,
but We Have Equal Rights**

Artur Bolzhurov

Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan

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**“The way you make others feel
is how they will remember you.”**

Sarah Sensenbrenner
11th Grade, Pine View School
Osprey, Florida, Teacher: Jessica Hentges

Helping Hand

Clayton Southard
University of Kansas
Lawrence, Kansas

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**“An example set is always better
than an opinion stated.”**

Deepika Sharma
New Delhi, India

The Time is Now

Natalie Bradin
12th Grade, Acellus Academy
Southport, North Carolina

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YOU DON'T
LOOK
SICK



“I won’t tell you I’m breaking inside;
I’ll wear a smile and tell you I’m okay.”

Cassidy Forrar

7th Grade, Sarasota Middle School
Sarasota, Florida, Teacher: Colleen Joiner

Sick

Anna Waite

12th Grade, Suncoast Polytechnical High School
Sarasota, Florida, Teacher: Amy Badovinac

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**“We may not be able to walk
in another person’s shoes,
but we can appreciate their journey.”**

Valerie King
Toledo, Ohio

United Colors - Feet

Patricia Kluwe Derderian
Clearwater, Florida

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**“You will never regret having spoken
as much as you regret your silence.”**

Anonymous
London, United Kingdom

Thurman by Firelight

Martin Dunn
Sarasota, Florida

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**“To fight for yourself is preservation,
to fight for another is compassion.”**

Dorian Carter
9th Grade, Pine View School
Sarasota, Florida

Unconditional Love

Patricia Beltran
Weston, Florida

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**“Differences do not
separate us; hatred does.”**

Jessica Wang

11th Grade, Cold Spring Harbor High School
Lloyd Harbor, New York, Teacher: April Henry

Sugar & Snails

Guta Galli & Aaron Wilder

Chicago, Illinois & San Francisco, California

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EVERY BODY IS



A BIKINI BODY



“Role models don’t inspire you to be them.
They inspire you to be you.”

Kalei Crozat

8th Grade, Pine View School
Osprey, Florida, Teacher: Wendy Hazlett

Every Body Is a Bikini Body

Olivia Wolfson

12th Grade, Franklin High School
Franklin, Tennessee

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"An oppressive society forces its citizens to be the same. An empowering society protects its citizens' right to be different."

Sarah Siemsgluess
12th Grade, Henry M. Gunn High School
Palo Alto, California

Unity

Evelyn Homewood
12th Grade, Stratford Girls' Grammar School
Royal Leamington Spa, United Kingdom

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**“Just because I look OK on the outside
doesn’t mean I’m OK on the inside.”**

Olivia Carr

7th Grade, Sarasota School of Arts & Sciences
Sarasota, Florida, Teacher: Brian Hubbard

Psychoanalysis

Leyla Emektar
Erdek, Turkey

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**WE
ALL
ARE
MIXED**



“The fact that everybody has a unique fingerprint proves that each person is meant to be different.”

Natalie Lubich
San Francisco, California

Diversity Fingerprint

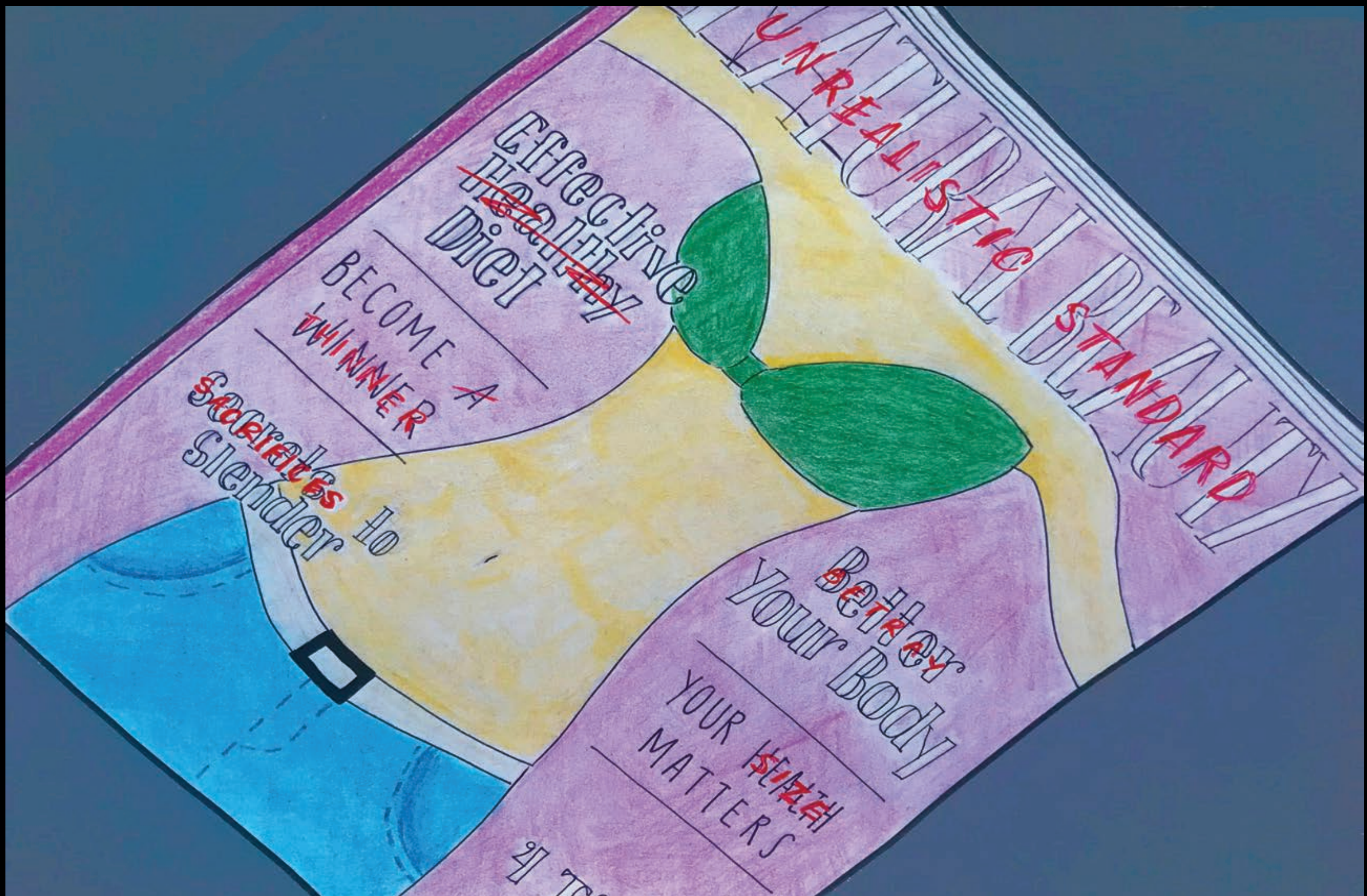
Sergio Naranjo Segura
Benicarlo, Spain

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"You can't begin to fix something if you refuse to acknowledge that it's broken."

Jude Kolesar
11th Grade, Pine View School
Osprey, Florida, Teacher: Christopher Pauling

Honesty in Advertising

Maya Rudo
12th Grade, Sarasota High School
Sarasota, Florida, Teacher: Anita Wexler

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“Brutality against one
is an assault on us all.”

Seth Morano
Sarasota, Florida

Did These Lives Matter?

Edward Thornton
Tallahassee, Florida

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“A single act of kindness can be an action that saves someone’s life.”

Ya Su

9th Grade, Lynbrook High School
Cupertino, California, Teacher: Hannah Su

Tiny Guardian

Chinmoy Biswas
Kolkata, India

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**“Stop pointing a finger and
start lending a hand.”**

Irene Nicola
Sarasota, Florida

This Is How I See It

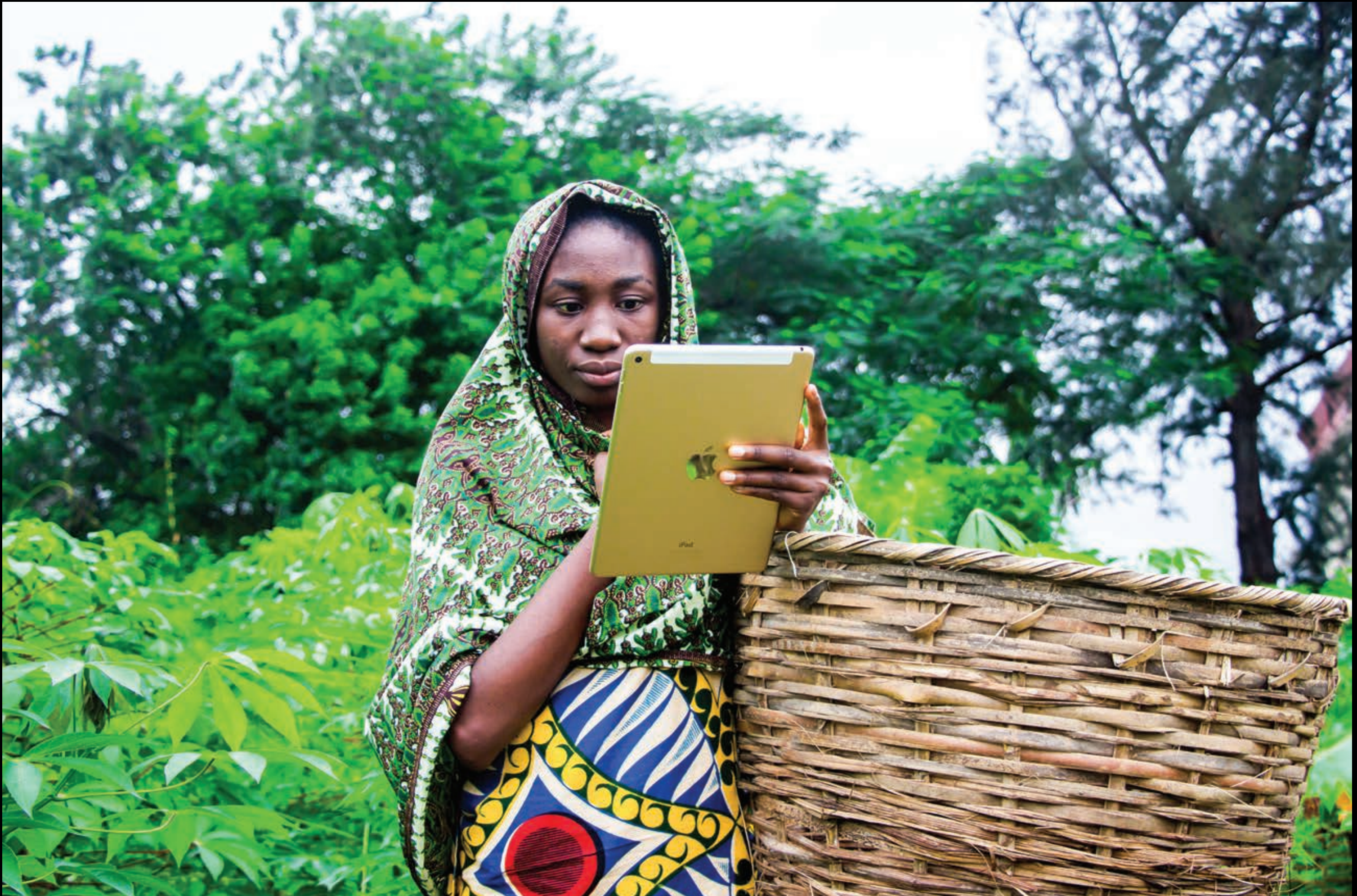
Karen Lawrence
Kingsbridge, United Kingdom

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“The moment you judge a book by its cover,
you miss what could have been a great story.”

Timi Toyon
11th Grade, Meadow Hall College
Lagos, Nigeria

City in the Village

Ismail Odetola
Lagos, Nigeria

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“Disability is a different kind of ability.”

Mammatli Molefi
Maputsoe, Lesotho

We Shall Overcome

Sudip Maiti
Kolkata, India

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**“Be who you want to be,
NOT who others expect you to be.”**

Izabella Pereira-Vera
6th Grade, Pine View School
Osprey, Florida, Teacher: Stacy Burkett

Why Not?

Srishti Singh
Chennai, India

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“A best friend is someone who appreciates
our strengths and accepts our flaws.”

Sanika Chatterjee
Dhanbad, India

The Sun & Moon Sisters

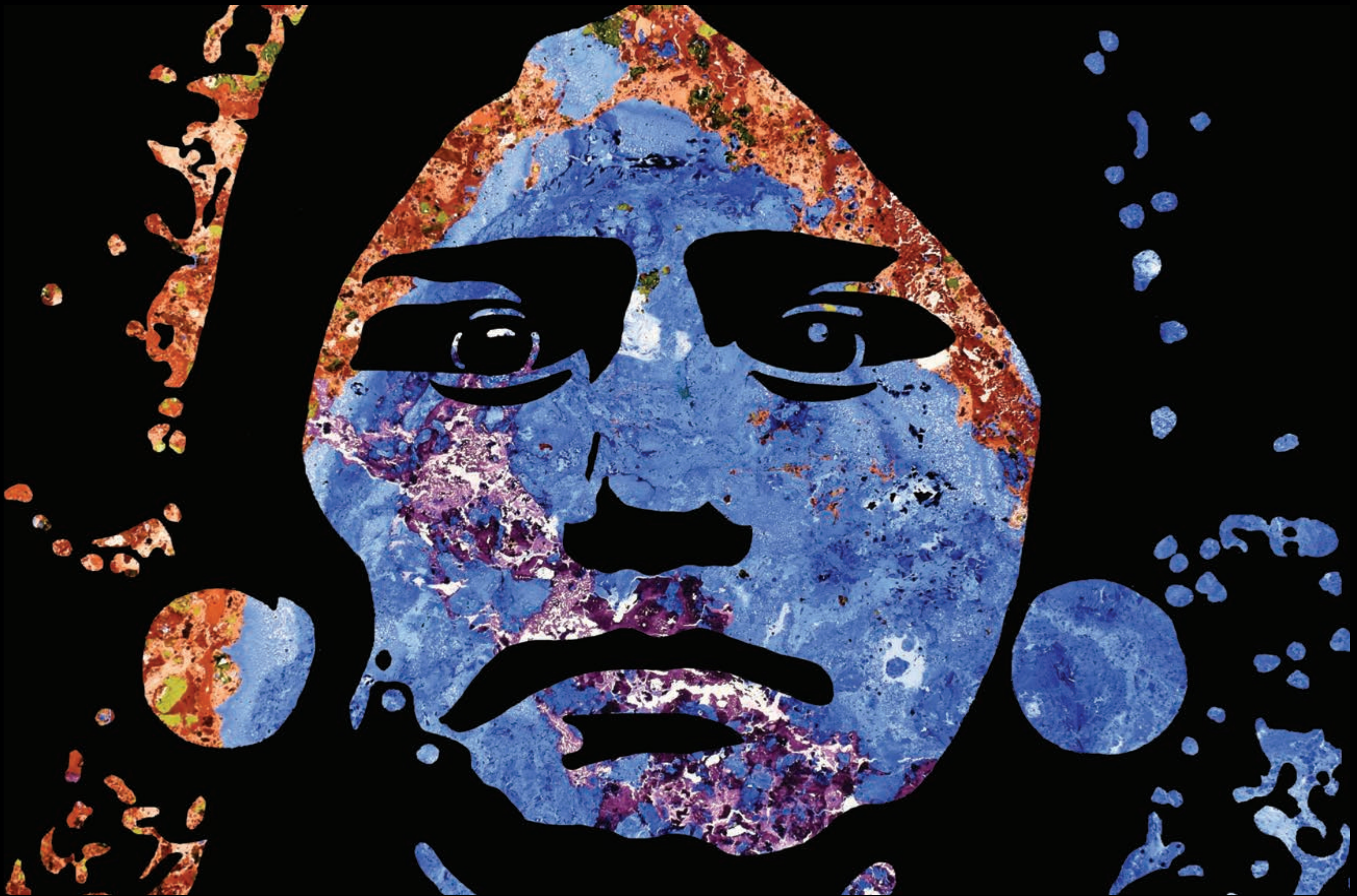
Allanson Ace Mangulabnan
Parañaque City, Philippines

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**“A country will recognize its potential
only when it recognizes its people.”**

Luan Hau Man
12th Grade, Mount Carmel School
New Delhi, India

Punto de Partida (Starting Point)

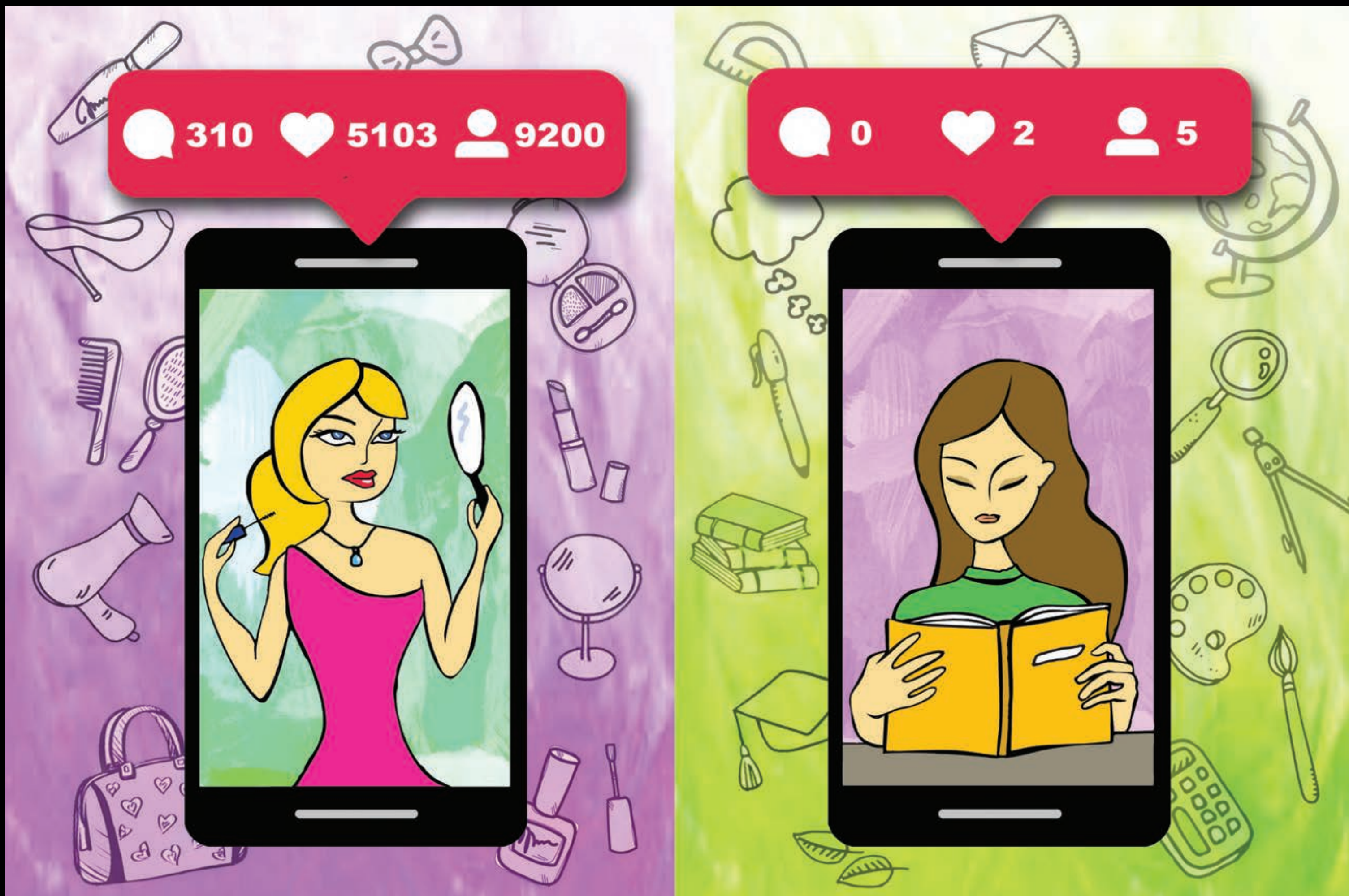
Moises Ramos
Jacksonville, Florida

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**“Put down your phone.
Make meaningful connections
with those around you.”**

Jackson Moran
12th Grade, IMG Academy
Bradenton, Florida, Teacher: Tracy Hodges

Real Values

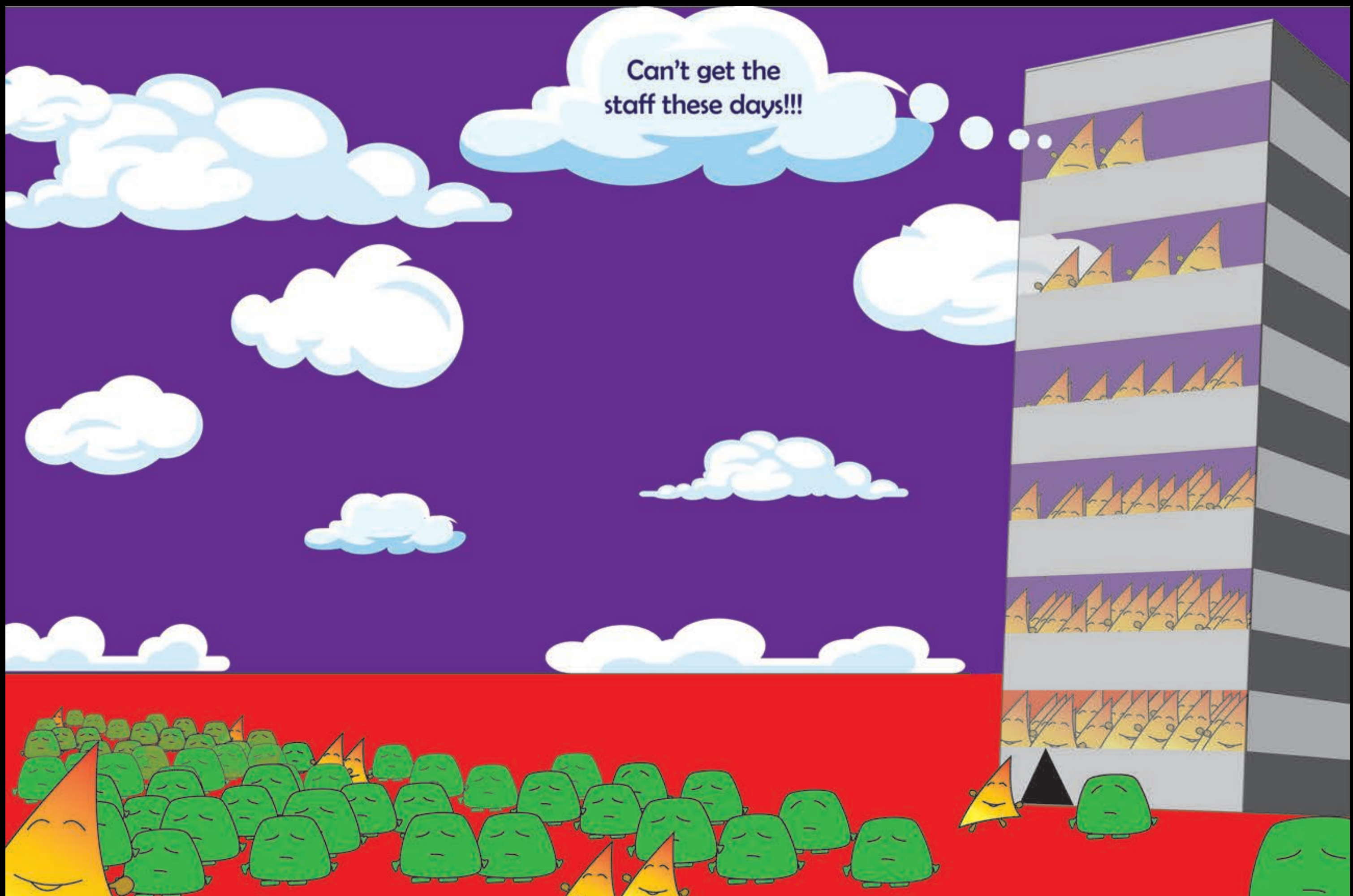
Maryam Seifollahi Bazarjani
Tehran, Iran

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“Inclusion means handing over the keys to those who have always faced locked doors.”

Thacy Mendes
Feira de Santana, Brazil

Diverse Teams Work Better

William Scott-Jackson
Interactive Design Institute, University of Hertfordshire
Hatfield, United Kingdom

EmbracingOurDifferences.org



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**“A better society is not a creation,
but a collaboration.”**

Seth Morano
Sarasota, Florida

Our Colorful World

Yasmina Akhavan Kharazi
11th Grade, Tehran, Iran

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As part of **Embracing Our Differences'** mission to celebrate and share amazing works of art created by students, the pieces below, which were created by elementary students in Manatee and Sarasota County, have been selected as **Rising Stars** for the 2021 Exhibit.

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You Are Unique

Kindergarten - 5th Grade Students

Bayshore Elementary School
Bradenton, FL, Teacher: Julia DeJarnette



Somos Uno (We Are One)

Jenifer Lucena

5th Grade, Gene Witt Elementary School
Bradenton, FL, Teacher: Kimberly Roberson-Hoy



Holding Hope

Sarai Castro

4th Grade, Louise R. Johnson K-8 School of International Studies
Bradenton, FL, Teacher: Suzie Abadjian



My Friends

Adrien Monod

5th Grade, Bay Haven School of Basics Plus
Sarasota, FL, Teacher: Alicia Stein



It's OK to Be Different

Jorge P., Keara P., Dariana V., Stefano Q., Juliana V.,
Lucas L., Sofia G., and Bella P.

Kindergarten - 5th Grade, Gulf Gate Elementary School
Sarasota, FL, Teacher: Alicia Loomis



Hate Has No Home Here

Chase Lanum

4th Grade, Garden Elementary School
Venice, FL, Teacher: Joanna Davis

CAUTION - Do not go underneath this art panel